SHORT NOTICES OF

HINDU MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

A

AGADHAPALA, an ancient instrument of percussion.

ALABU SARANGI, a drawing-room stringed instrument played with a bow ; is called by some Europeans the Indian Violin. The surface of this instrument is like that of the violin, with a gourd hollow under it. It is known to be a very old instrument.

ALAPINI VINA, a drawing-room stringed instrument played with a Mizrab (plectrum), ; an ancient instrument.

ALGOZA, a drawing-room wind-instru-

ment of the flute species; a kind of Indian flute. It is used in drawing-rooms, on account of its sweet sound; sometimes also, in out-door music.

AMRITA, a very ancient stringed instrument, played with a bow. In appearance, resembles the Rabana, a stringed instrument. (See RABANA).

ANANDALAHARI, a pastoral instrument, played with a wooden jawa (plectrum); is used mostly by the singing beggars.

B

BALLAKI VINA, a stringed instrument of the ancient Hindus. It is mentioned in the "Amarakosha."

BANG, a musical instrument, used by the children.

BANSHI, a well-known and most ancient wind-instrument of the Hindus. It has various forms and names, such as the Murali, Sarala Banshi, &c.

BANYA, a modern drawing-room percussion instrument, played with the hands. It is copied from the Mridanga, an ancient instrument of percussion. It is played with songs and dances.

BARATAKA, a shell species wind-instrument; is a large-sized conch, made of the *cowri* and used in religious services.

BENU, a drawing-room wind-instrument of the flute species, made of bambu pipe. The length of this instrument is about four feet six inches. It is known to be a classical instrument and is much used in the Orissa districts.

Bharata vina, a modern drawing-room stringed instument, formed out of the Rudra and Kachhapi Vina. It is played with a Mizrab (steel plectrum).

Bijaya, an ancient wind instrument of the flute species.

Bipanchi vina, a drawing-room stringed instrument, played with a Mizrab, (steel plectrum) ; is almost the same as the Kinnari Vina. The hollow of this instrument is made of a peculiar kind of gourd, known in Bengal as the *Tit Lauo*.

C

Charchari, an out-door percussion instrument, played with small sticks, and used in religious services.

Charki, an instrument made of wood ; used by the children.

CHIKARA, a pastoral stringed instrument, played with the bow. The strings of it are all made of horse-hair. It is generally used by the Durwans, Syces, &c., &c.

CHITRA VINA, an ancient drawing-room stringed instrument. It is mentioned in "Sangeeta-Darpana."

CHOWTARA, a pastoral stringed instrument, mounted with four strings.

D

DAGAR or

DAGARA, an out-door instrument of percussion, played with a stick. It is of a recent invention; used in the Nahabat.*

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* Nahabat is that Indian brass band which is played on festive occasions and marriage

DAK, a small pastoral instrument of percussion.

DAMAMA, an instrument of percussion, played with a stick; used in the Nahabat.

DAMARU, a pastoral instrument of percussion; a very ancient instrument; said to have been the favorite of the Hindu God Shiva. Now it is generally used by the snake-charmers and monkey-players.

DAMPHA, an instrument of percussion, used by the Byragees, Nagas, &c., of religious places such as Mathura,

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processions. The musicians are generally made to sit on some high spots, *i e.*, over gates or triumphal arches, &c. This band had its origin in the Mahomedan period.

Brindabana, &c. It is meant to accompany the "*Bhajan*" or prayer-songs.

DARA, an instrument of percussion similar to the tambourine; used in out-door music.

DENGARI, another name for the Dindima.

DHAK, an out-door instrument of percussion similar to the drum; formerly known as the Dhakka, and used in wars. Now, in religious festivals, such as in *Charaka Parbana*, *Durga Puja*, &c. The right side of this instrument is played with two sticks. The left side is left out altogether.

DHOL, an instrument of percussion, used by the Oorias; resembles much the Dhak.

DHOLA, an out-door instrument of percussion; is suspended on the neck of the

player while played, and is used on festive occasions. Also accompanies the *Kobi* songs, &c. The left side of this instrument is played with a stick.

DHOLAKA, a drawing-room instrument of percussion, played with the hands; is especially adapted to be played in native *Jattras*, *Panchalis*, *Half-Akhra-yees*, &c. Sometimes accompanies *Khiyal* songs.

DHOLAKI, a small Dholaka.

DINDIMA or

DINDIMI, a pastoral instrument of percussion; resembles a small Khanjani.

DOFFDE, an instrument of percussion, similar somewhat to the Dampha. An instrument like this is very rarely seen at present.

DUGDUGA or

DUGDUGI, a vulgar name of the Dàmaru.

DUNDUBHI, a well-known ancient instrument of percussion, formerly used both in wars and religious services. It is said to have been also used by the Hindu gods. The name of this instrument is mentioned in the Ramayana, Mahabharata and other Puranas. Now it is called the Nagara.

E

ESRAR, a drawing-room stringed instrument, played with the bow; a modern instrument formed out of the Setar and Sarangi. Now it is generally used to accompany the female voice and to play light songs and airs.

EKTARA, a pastoral stringed instrument,

played with the tips of the fingers ; used exclusively by the Byragees and Bauls, *i. e.* religious mendicants, for accompanying pastoral songs. This instrument is mounted with one string.

G

GHAGARA, a set of jingles worn by the children ; made of metals.

GHANTA, a bell, used at the time of worship.

GHANTIKA, a small bell, used at the time of worship and also tied up in the necks of the cow, goat, &c. See KHUDRA GHANTA.

GHARGHARA, an ancient stringed instrument.

GHARGHARI or

GHARGHARIKA, (See GHAGARA.)

GHARGHARI, or

GHARGHARIKA, a musical instrument of the ancient Hindus.

GHARI, the Indian Gong, of very great vibrations, played with a wooden hammer or stick. The people of the North-Western Provinces call it the Thala. (See THALA.)

GHUNGHURA, a set of jingles or little bells worn on the ankles by dancers to keep time.

GHUNTI or

GHUNTIKA. (See GHUNGHURA)

GHUTRU, a pastoral instrument of percussion; is shaped like a pitcher and used by the Telugues, &c.

GOMUKHA, a wind instrument of the shell species; a kind of conch, some-

what resembling the mouth of the cow, whence it derives its name. Also it is a very ancient war-instrument of the Hindus, being mentioned in the Ramayana and Mahabharata.

Gopi-jantra, a pastoral stringed instrument, played with the tips of the fingers, used exclusively by the Byragees and Bauls, *i. e.* religious mendicants, for accompanying pastoral songs.

Go-shringa, a very ancient wind instrument of the horn species, made of cow-horn. In ancient days, it was used in wars as well as in religious services. It is mentioned in the Ramayana, Mahabharata, &c.

H

HUBRUK,

HURRUKA or

HURRUKKA, a pastoral instrument of percussion; is a large-sized Damaru, used by the Kaharas and other lower tribes. It is accompanied by the Karatala.

J

JAGAJHAMPA, an out-door instrument of percussion; is suspended on the neck of the player, while played (with two sticks); formerly used in wars, now on festive occasions.

JAYA, an ancient wind instrument of the flute species.

JAYADHAKKA, the largest and most ancient Indian drum; formerly used in

wars, now on *Durga Puja*, *Charraka Parbana*, and other festive occasions.

JAYAGHANTA, the ancient and largest bell; formerly used in wars, now in religious services, being suspended in the temples of the Hindu gods.

JAYASHRINGA, the largest trumpet of the Hindus, formerly used in wars, now in religious services, &c. Its other name is Rana-shringa.

JALA-BHANDHA or BHURBHURI, an instrument used by the children. It is made of earth.

JHALARI, a pastoral instrument of percussion; is also called Hurruk or Jharjhari.

JHALLAKA, a species of metallic instrument of percussion; resembles the Kansya or Kansara.

JHALLARI or

JHALLI. (See JHALARI.)

JHANJ or

JHANJA, a metallic instrument of percussion, played with a stick and used in religious services. It is also called Jhanjhara.

JHANJHARA, (See JHANJ or JHANJA.)

JHANJHARI, a small Jhanjhara.

JHANJ KHANJANI, a pastoral instrument of percussion, covered with skin ; is supplied with two small cymbals which make a jingling sound, when it is struck upon.

JHARIDHAP, a pulsatile instrument, covered with skin ; is played with the Dagara with a stick. It is used in the Nahabat.

JHARJHARA, a pulsatile instrument cover-

ed with skin ; is also called Karra or Karrar. It is a pastoral instrument of ancient invention.

Jharjhari, a small Jharjhara. It is also a species of the Indian Cymbals.

Jhilli, an ancient percussion instrument made of metal, used in religious services.

Jhumjhumi or

Jhunjhuni, an instrument made of wood or metal, used by the children.

K

Kachhapi vina, a drawing-room stringed instrument, played with a mizrab (steel plectrum), known at present as the Kachua Setar. It owes its name to the shape of the gourd which is flat like the

back of a tortoise (Kachhapa). It is a classical instrument.

KALAMA, an out-door wind-instrument of the reed species: so called, because of its likeness to the pen (Kalama).

KANOON, (See KATTYAYANA VINA.)

KANSARA, a drawing-room percussion instrument made of metal, played with a stick, used in temples and other religious places at the time of worship.

KANIS, an out-door percussion instrument, played with a stick. It keeps time with the Dhola.

KANSYA. (See KANSARA.)

KARANA, a large trumpet of a very shrill sound; made of brass. Its length is 15 feet. (See SHRINGA.)

KARATALA or

KARATALI, Cymbals accompanying the Khola; used in religious services, &c.

KARNA, (See KARANA.)

KARRA or

KARRARA. (See JHARJHARA.)

KARRULI, an ancient instrument of percussion.

KATTYAYANA VINA, a drawing-room stringed instrument, played with two small sticks; now called the Kanoon. Formerly it was called by the Hindus the Shata-tantri Vina or the hundred-wired Vina, on account of the large number of wires, that are in this instrument. The sage Kattyayayana is said to have invented it.

KHAMAKA, a pastoral instrument of percussion of recent invention, covered with skin.

KHANJANI, also a pastoral instrument of percussion, covered with skin; played and sung to by the religious mendicants, &c.

KHARATALA or

KHARATALI, cymbals used in the Nahabat.

KHATTALA or

KHATTALI, the castanets of the Hindus. When played by expert hands, produces marvellous effect.

KHOL, a pastoral instrument of percussion covered with skin, chiefly used to accompany the "*Kirtana*" and other religious songs.

KHORADAK (1)

KHORADAK (2), instruments of percussion covered with skin, used in the Nahabat. Both played at once with the fingers and palms of the hands.

That played with the right hand gives the high sound, that, with the left, produces the low sound. These instruments are played with the Rawoshunchowki.

KHUDRA GHANTA, a small bell, used in worship and other occasions.

KHUDRA GHANTIKA. (See GHUNGHURA).

KHUDRA KATTYAYANA VINA, the Kattyayana Vina of a smaller size, played with two sticks.

KINNARI VINA, a drawing room stringed instrument played with a mizrab (steel plectrum) ; is a modified form of the Kachhapi Vina, and said to have been used by the softer sex in ancient times. The hollow is made of an egg.

L

LAYA BANSI, a drawing-room wind-instru-

ment of the flute species ; is like the Sarala Bansi, and has to be held straight before the mouth. But it has to be blown from one of the ends of the lips.

M

MADALA. (See MARDDALA).

MADDU, an ancient instrument of percussion. It is mentioned in the "Amarakosha."

MADHUKARI, a wind-instrument of the ancient Hindus.

MAHA KACHHAPI VINA, a very large-sized Kachhapi Vina.

MAHA MANDIRA, a drawing room percussion instrument, made of metal ; is a bigger-sized Mandira. (See MANDIRA.)

MAHA MRIDANGA, a drawing-room percussion instrument, covered with skin and played with the hands ; is a large-sized Mridanga. (See MRIDANGA.)

MAHA NAGARA. (See NAHABAT.)

MAHANANDA, an ancient wind-instrument of the flute species.

MAHATI VINA, a drawing-room instrument played with Mizrabs ; said to have been invented by the Sage Narada. It is the best and most difficult of all Hindu musical instruments. It is also generally called "Vin" by the people of Hindustan,—a corruption of the word "Vina".

MANDIRA, a drawing-room percussion instrument, made of metal ; is used to measure out the time in musical performances. The sound of this instru-

ment is produced by two cups made of bell-metal striking against each other.

MANJIRA, another name of Mandira.

MARRDDALA, a pastoral instrument of percussion covered with skin ; is commonly known as the Madala. It is chiefly used by the aboriginal hilly tribes, such as the Bheehls, Koles, Santals, &c. of Beerbhoom, Rajmahal, Manbhoom, Chotta Nagpore, Midnapore, Seuri and other hilly place . It is a classical instrument—evidently a corruption of the Mridanga.

MINA SARANGI, a drawing-room stringed instrument played with the bow ; is a form of the Esrar ; with the exception of the surface of the finger-board, the whole thing is made of one

entire piece of gourd. Its name is derived from the figure of a fish (Mina) attached to the end of the hollow.

MOCHANGA, a drawing-room stringed instrument played with the tip of a finger; a very ancient and curious instrument. It has to be held with the teeth, by means of the left hand, and the wire has to be sounded by the fore-finger of the right hand. It gives only a few notes.

MOSHUCK. (See NAGABADDHA.)

MRIDANGA, a drawing-room instrument of percussion covered with skin and played with the hands; is a very ancient instrument said to have been invented by the Hindu god Brahma. It is intended to accompany solemn music and hymns. It is also used in

Imperial Durbars with high class songs, such as the *Dhrupada*, &c. It is sometimes played with the Mahati Vina, Rudra Vina, &c.

Muraja, another kind of Mridanga. It is also said to be an ancient instrument.

Murali, a drawing-room wind-instrument of the flute species; is the "Indian flute"; said to have been invented by the Hindu God Krishna, who is noted to have been fond of it.

N

Nadeshvara vina, a drawing-room stringed instrument played with the bow; a very modern instrument

formed out of the Violin and the Kachhapi Vina.

Nafari, a species of Indian trumpet.

Nagabaddha, a pastoral wind-instrument with double tubes ; known as such in sanskrit ; its modern name is "Moshuck". It somewhat resembles the Scotch Bagpipe.

Nagaphani, an out-door wind instument made of copper ; used by the people of Nepal. It somewhat resembles the "French Horn".

Nagara or **Nagra**, an out-door percussion instrument covered with skin and played with two sticks, formerly used in wars, now on festive occasions. It is known to the ancients as the Dundhuvi.

Nahabat, an out-door percussion ins-

trument covered with skin and played with two sticks ; is the largest Indian kettle drum. It is known to the ancients as the Maha Nagara.

NANDA, a wind-instrument of the ancient Hindus, of the flute species. The length of this instrument is 11 feet.

NAPOORA, a metallic instrument of percusion, used like the Ghunghura for dancing purposes.

NARASHINGA or

NARASHRINGA, an out-door wind-instrument of the horn species, entirely made of copper; used by the Nepalese.

NISANA, an instrument of percussion of the ancient Hindus.

NOUBAT, the largest Indian kettle drum; is called in Sanskrit the Maha Nagra.

Nuy, an out-door wind–instrument, used in the Nahabat &c.

Nyasataranga, a peculiar instrument. This instrument, though of a classic origin, has created no little wonder amongest the Indian public. It looks like a wind-instrument, but is never blown. It has to be placed on the throat, upon the vocal chords, and being breathed upon strongly, will produce a clear reedy note. It can be made to hum out *Alapas* or airs or songs as may be desired. It is believed that an instrument of this description is scarcely to be met in any other part of the Globe. It can also be made to produce sound when placed upon the cheeks and the nostrils. Its ancient name is Upanga.

P

Pakhowaj, the Persian name of the Mridanga.

Panaba, a very classical drawing-room instrument of percussion covered with skin and played with the hands ; a small drum or tabor.

Paribadini vina, a drawing-room stringed instrument of the ancient Hindus, mounted with seven strings. It is mentioned in the "Amarakosha."

Patpati, a musical instrument for the children, covered with skin.

Pinaka, a one-stringed instrument played with the tips of the fingers ; said to be the father of all stringed instruments. It is known to have been in-

vented by the Hindu God Shiva.

PINAKI VINA. (See PINAKA).

PUGI, a pastoral wind instrument formerly used, on religious occasions but now by the snake-charmers. It is said to have been blown in ancient times by the nostrils; but now by the mouth; the ancient name of this instrument is Nasa-jantra.

R

RABAB. (See RUDRA VINA.)

RABANA, a very ancient stringed instrument of the Hindus, played with the bow. It is said to have been played like the Rabanastra or Rabanastram.

RABANASTRA or

RABANASTRAM, a most ancient stringed instrument of the Hindus, played with

the bow. It is said to have been made by Rabana, the king of Ceylon.

RABANI, a pulsatile instrument covered with skin, used by the Singhalese; generally by the women of that nation.

RAMA SHINGA or

RAMA SHRINGA, the largest trumpet of the Hindus.

RANA SHINGA or

RANA SHRINGA, an out-door instrument of the horn species, fomerly used in military bands. Now used in religious processions.

ROWSHUNCHOUKI, a well known out-door wind instrument of the reed species.

ROWSHUNCHOUKI SARNA. (See ROWSHAN-CHOUKI).

RUANA, the corrupted name of the Rabana.

RUDRA VINA, a drawing-room stringed instrument, played with a wooden jawa (plectrum). It is known at present as the Rabab. Much used in Persia, Afghanisthan and the North-Western Provinces of India. Known as "Rubeb" in Arabia.

RUNJA, an ancient instrument of percussion of the Hindus.

S

SANJOGI, a drawing-room stringed instrument played with the bow; a modified form of the Sarangi. It is a modern invention.

SAPTA GHANTIKA, seven little bells placed in a row and used to keep time in the orchestra. A very modern instument.

SARABA, a pastoral pulsatile instrument covered with skin ; an earthen vessel ; used by the children.

SARALA BANSI, the Indian flageolet. It has to be held straight before the mouth when played.

SARANGI, a drawing-room stringed instrument played with the bow. It is a very sweet-toned ancient instrument, intended to accompany the female voice. It is generally used in the performances of the Hindustani Natch-girls.

SARINDA, a pastoral stringed instrument played with the bow ; is a rude form of the Sarangi. It is known to be an ancient instrument. Now generally used by the Durwan class. &c.

SARNA, an out-door wind instrument common in India and Persia. , .

SARODE, the Mahomedan name of the Sharadiya Vina.

SATTALI, another species of the castanets of the Hindus.

SETAR, a modern and well known drawing-room stringed instrument, played with a mizrab (steel plectrum). (See TRITANTRI VINA).

SHANAYE, an out-door wind instrument of the reed species, used in the Nahabat and Rowshunchouki performances. It also accompanies the Dhola of the Bengalis and Oorias. It looks very much like the Hautboy. It was a favorite instrument of the Emperor Akbar Shah.

SHANKHA, a very ancient wind instrument of the shell species, formerly used in wars and on religious and festive

occasions, now only on the latter. This instrument might be, not inappropriately, called the father of wind-instruments. In days of yore, there were shankhas of various descriptions, such as the *Panchajanya*, used by Krishna, *Devadatta*, by Arjuna, *Poundra* by Bhima, &c. It is also used in the Buddha Temples. It is called by the Europeans the "Conch trumpet".

SHARADIYA VINA, a drawing-room stringed instrument, played with a wooden Jawa (plectrum), known at present as the Sarode. Is mostly used in the Upper Provinces. It was formerly used as an out-door instrument, in royal processions.

SHOWKTIKA VINA, a drawing-room strin-

ged instrument played with a mizrab (steel pectrum). The hollow of this instrument is made of mother-o'-pearl. In every other respect, it is just like the Kachhapi.

SHRINGA, an ancient out-door wind-instrument of the horn species; is commonly known as the Indian horn, It was the favorite instrument of the Hindu God Shiva.

SHRUTI VINA, a drawing-room stringed instrument played with a mizrab (steel plectrum). It is an ancient instrument of the Setar description. It shows the 22 shrutis or enharmonic intervals, which exist in an octave.

SHUKTI PATTA, a kind of musical instrument of the ancient Hindus.

SUR-BAHAR, a drawing-room stringed

instrument played with a mizrab (steel plectrum); is a large-sized Kachhapi Vina, invented about 50 years ago, by Golam Mahomed Khan of Lucknow. It is especially adapted for playing *Alapas* of Ragas and Raginis.

SURMANDALA, a kind of Indian dulcimer.

SURSANGA, a drawing-room stringed instrument played with the bow. In fact it is nothing but the Esrar without the side-wires. It is said to have been first made by Sebaram Dass of Bismpur.

SURSEETA, a stringed intrument of the Hindus.

SUR-SHRINGARA, a drawing room stringed instrument played with an Iron Jawa (plectrum). Is a composition of the Mahati, Kachhapi and Rudra Vinas.

It is invented by the celebrated Vina-player Piyar Khan.

SUR VINA, a drawing-room stringed instrument played with the bow ; is somewhat like the Rudra Vina in appearance. It is a classical instrument.

SWARA-MANDALA. (See SUR-MANDALA.)

SWARA-SHRINGARA. (See SUR-SHRINGARA.)

SWARA VINA. (See SUR VINA.)

T

TABLA, a drawing-room pulsatile instrument covered with skin and played with the right hand. It accompanies *Tuppa* and other light songs with the Banya. It is also played with dancers, the Sarangi, Esrar, &c. It is sometimes called the Dahina.

Taka-tantri, an ancient stringed instrument of the Hindus. It is mentioned in the Sangita Darpana.

Tambura, Tanpura. (See Tumburu Vina.)

Tasa, an out-door pulsatile instrument covered with skin and played with two sticks, formerly used in wars. Now it is used on festive occasions.

Taus or Mayuri, a drawing-room stringed instrument played with the bow. Is a form of the Esrar. It derives its name from the figure of a peacock (mayura) attached to the end of the hollow.

Tikara, a pulsatile instrument used in the Nahabat; is played simultaneously with the Damama, each with a stick.

Tiktiri. (See Tubri.)

TRITANTRI VINA, an ancient drawing-room instrument played with a mizrab (steel plectrum). Now it goes by the general name "Setar" (or "three wires") given to it by Amir Khusroo in the 13th century. The hollow of this instrument is sometimes made of wood. In other respects, it is just like the Kachhapi. Originally it had three wires only.

TUBRI, a pastoral wind instrument with double tubes, used by the snake-charmers. It is called Tiktiri in Sanskrit.

TUMBURU VINA, a very ancient drawing-room stringed instrument played with the tips of the fingers; better known as the Tambura or Tanpura. The invention of this instrument is attribut-

ed to the celestial musician Tumburu. It is used in both vocal and instrumental performances, and, by continuing the sound is intended to prevent any disagreeable pauses in them.

Tuntuni, an ancient pastoral stringed instrument mounted with one string only. (See Ekatara or Ekatantrika.)

Turi, an out-door wind intrument of the horn species, used formerly on occasions of wars. Now used in the religious services, also sometimes in the Nahabat. It is generally known as the Indian Trumpet.

V

Vina, a very ancient and well-know.. drawing-room stringed instrument of the

Hindus ; has various forms, such as the Mahati, Ranjani, Bipanchi, Kachhapi, Bharata, Rudra, Sharadiya, Tritantri, Kimnari, Showktika, Shruti, Prasarani, Kattyayana, Tumburu Vina, &c., &c., &c.

Y

Yashahpataha, a pulsatile instrument covered with skin, used in ancient days by the Hindus in wars. It is said to have been played with very much joy by the victorious party just after a battle was gained.

Yoraghayi, an out-door percussion instrument covered with skin ; a double instrument. The whole thing is a small Dhola placed upon a bigger one.

The right side of this instrument is played with a stick and the left with the hand.

THE END.